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**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION REPORT**

**I. HEADING**

**DATE:** August 8, 2002

**SUBJECT:** POLREP for the United Iron and Metal Site, East St. Louis, St. Clair County,  
Illinois  
*E. St Louis Gateway*

**FROM:** Kevin Turner, Mike Harris, Thomas Cook, U.S. EPA OSC, Region 5, ERB, Chicago, IL.

<b>TO:</b> K. Mould, U.S. EPA, OSWER, Washington D.C.	(mould.kevin@epa.gov)
R. Karl, U.S. EPA, ERB Chief, Chicago, IL	(karl.richard@epa.gov)
B. Bolen, U.S. EPA, Chief Section 2, Chicago, IL	(bolen.bill@epa.gov)
L. Nachowicz, U.S. EPA Chief Section 3, Chicago, IL	(nachowicz.linda@epa.gov)
B. Messenger, U.S. EPA Chief EES, Chicago, IL	(messenger.william@epa.gov)
V. Mullins, U.S. EPA Enforcement Specialist, Chicago, IL	(mullins.valerie@epa.gov)
G. Narsete, U.S. EPA, Public Affairs, Chicago, IL	(narsete.virginia@epa.gov)
D. Novak, U.S. EPA, RPM, Chicago, IL	(novak.dion@epa.gov)
T. Martin, U.S. EPA, ORC, Chicago, IL	(martin.thomas@epa.gov)
J. Maritote, U.S. EPA, Chicago, IL	(maritote.john@epa.gov)
N. Emeric, U.S. EPA, Gateway Team Leader, Chicago, IL	(emeric.noemi@epa.gov)
B. Everetts, Illinois EPA, Springfield, IL	(bruce.everetts@epa.state.il.us)
T. Miller, Illinois EPA, Collinsville, IL	(tom.miller@epa.state.il.us)

**POLREP:** POLREP #1/Initial - Fund Lead Removal

**II. BACKGROUND**

**Site No:** B5Z2-OU2

**CERCLIS No:** ILN000508216

**NPL Status:** Non NPL

**Start Date:** July 22, 2002

**Completion Date:** N/A

**Task Order No:** 113

**Response Authority:** CERCLA

**State Notification:** April 23, 2002

**Demobilization Date:** N/A

**Status of Action Memorandum:** Signed May 6, 2002

**III. SITE INFORMATION**

**A. Incident Category**

Former Scrap-yard Removal

**B. Site Description**

303 South 11<sup>th</sup> Street, East St. Louis, St. Clair County, Illinois.

## **1. Site location**

The United Iron & Metal site is located at 303 South 11<sup>th</sup> Street in East St. Louis, St. Clair County, Illinois. The site is located north of McCasland Avenue between South 10<sup>th</sup> and South 11<sup>th</sup> Streets in an area of vacant parcels, residential, industrial, commercial and institutional properties. A public housing development, various rundown buildings, a large trucking facility, and residential homes surround the former facility. St. Mary's Hospital is located about 0.75 mile northwest of the site. Lincoln Middle School, a children's daycare facility and a community center are all located within 700 feet of the site in an easterly direction.

## **2. Description of threat**

The United Iron & Metal site is located at 303 South 11<sup>th</sup> Street in East St. Louis, St. Clair County, Illinois. The site is surrounded by residential, industrial, commercial and institutional properties. Lincoln Middle School, a children's daycare facility, and a community center are all located within 700 feet of the site in an easterly direction, and Lilly Freeman Grade School is located approximately 0.75 mile from the Site.

Lead was found wide spread throughout the site with most of the area above the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) site specific action level of 400 parts per million (ppm) for residential land use scenarios. A screening with X ray fluorescence (XRF) data revealed elevated levels of lead on-site including concentrations of 75,161 ppm, 16,192, and 10,899. The health concerns at this site are related to the uncontrolled access to the property and the evidence of trespassing on the property by the local population, potentially exposing young children, pregnant women and elderly individuals to high levels of lead contamination. Approximately 20 rusty 55-gallon drums were observed scattered within the interior of dilapidated building. In addition, evidence of illegal dumping of various household wastes and rubbish was on Site.

## **3. Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection Results**

Site assessment activities were conducted at the United Iron and Metal site on several occasions in the year 2001. Through a grant given by the U.S. EPA's Gateway Initiative, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) first collected soil lead data associated with this site and the surrounding residential properties. IDPH shared their data with St. Mary's Hospital, the Metro-East Lead Collaborative Partnership and the U.S. EPA. Further site characterization and data collection was conducted through funding supplied to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) from the U.S. EPA, Region 5, Brownfields Section. ACOE field crew took X ray fluorescence (XRF) spectrometer readings. Lead was found throughout the former facility and surrounding neighborhood with much of the area above the U.S. EPA lead site specific action level of 400 parts per million (ppm) for land use and 1,000 ppm for industrial scenarios.

## **IV. SITE INFORMATION**

### **A. Situation**

#### **1. Response activities to date**

Work began on the Site on July 22, 2002 with the following:

- On July 22, 2002 Emergency and Rapid Response Services (ERR's), Superfund Technical Assessment Team (START), and On-Scene (OSC) Mike Harris mobilized to site.
- Following an initial safety meeting, cleaning, grubbing, and centralizing surface debris for disposal was initiated.
- The site was measured out 300'x400'. Twelve grids were then marked out measuring 100'x100'.
- Approximately 500 tires of various sizes were found and stockpiled.
- 20 empty rusted out 55-gallon drums were crushed and prepared for disposal.
- Excavation began in grids 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12.
- 5.958 tons of soil stockpiled thus far for disposal.

**2. Removal activities to date:**

- ERRs has been clearing the site for excavation.
- Surface debris was placed in a consolidated location for future disposal.
- Approximately 500 tires were staged for removal and was coordinated through the Illinois EPA Tire Program.
- 5.958 ton of low level lead soils have been stockpiled.

**3. Enforcement:**

- Enforcement/Cost recovery actions are pending.

**B. Planned Removal Activities**

- Transport low level lead contaminated soil off-site for disposal.

**C. Next Steps**

- Transport low level lead contaminated soil off site for disposal.
- Secure access, excavate residential properties, and backfill excavated areas with clean fill.

**D. Key Issues**

- Disposal of low level lead contaminated soil off site;

- Securing access from residential home owners near the Site.

## V. COSTS

	<u>Cost to date</u>	<u>Ceiling</u>	<u>% Remaining</u>
ERRS	\$25,353	\$344,866	%93
START	\$4,900	\$16,500	%70
EPA	\$3,200	\$27,990	%89
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$33,453</b>	<b>\$389,356</b>	<b>%91</b>

The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor. Other financial data, which the OSC must rely upon, may not be entirely up to date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

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## VI. DISPOSITION OF WASTES

Wastestream	Medium	Quantity	Transportation	Treatment	Disposal
Lead	Soil	0.0 Tons	Truck	N/A	Landfill